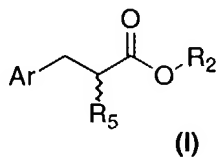


ABSTRACT

Provided is a method of resolving a racemic mixture of a compound of formula I to obtain a desired enantiomer:



wherein Ar is C₆ or C₁₀ aromatic group that can be substituted with H, C₁ to C₆ alkyl, trifluoromethyl or halo, R₅ is halo or -S-R₁, wherein R₁ is H or acetyl, and R₂ is H or C₁ to C₆ alkyl, the method comprising: reacting a compound of formula I wherein the compound is an ester whereby R₂ is C₁ to C₆ alkyl with a lipase derived from *Mucor meihei* to stereoselectively hydrolyze the ester bond to produce an acid; and isolating the acid, wherein the reaction is conducted in a solvent comprising 80% to 98% v/v% organic phase and a residue of water phase (which can be buffered).